

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (30/13)

Justin Chadwick (26 July 2013)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "It's not that we need new ideas, but we need to stop having old ideas" Edwin Land

MEETING WITH MINISTER AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES (DAFF)

Friday was an important day for the citrus industry as the Minister of DAFF found time in her busy schedule to meet with the Chairman of CGA (Pieter Nortje) and me. The Minister included many top officials from DAFF in the meeting. AgriSA also attended the meeting.

The main topic under consideration was market access. Apart from the present circumstances in the EU, the Minister addressed the issue of widening access in Eastern markets. In particular membership of BRICS should be exploited to widen access into Russia, India and China. In China the emphasis will be on pursuing alternatives to the present cold sterilisation requirement and market development. The biggest stumbling block for additional access into India is the duty on imported fruit. With regard to the EU, the latest discussions during the RSA-EU Summit have opened the door for joint resolution with regard to managing the CBS risk.

The Minister stressed the need for all in the fruit sector to work together in order to move matters forward. This thinking is in line with discussions within Fruit South Africa (FSA – comprising CGA, HORTGRO, South African Table Grape Industry (SATI), SUBTROP and Fresh Produce Exporters Forum). At a meeting on Thursday the FSA Board agreed to test their constituencies with regard to resourcing FSA to address common issues.

A work group consisting of fruit industry representatives and DAFF officials is to be formed to address market access, which will report directly to the Minister.

CBS UPDATE

The European Commission's Plant Health Europhyte website lists all phytosanitary interceptions in the EU. The website has recently been updated with the June 2013 information – with regard to CBS there were no interceptions recorded from South Africa (as expected). There were three interceptions for CBS from other sources of citrus supply to the EU.

South African growers and DAFF must be commended for keeping this clean sheet – with just one interception recorded in July (to date). This is particularly commendable given the difficult weather conditions experienced in 2012. These weather conditions are the topic of CBS Bulletin 8 distributed at the end of last week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Growers are requested to diarise the following events:

14-15 AUGUST 2013; Cape Town Focusing on "Fresh Opportunities for Growth," the Produce Marketing Association's (PMA) Fresh Connections Southern Africa: Conference & Expo will help you gain insight into both southern Africa and global market trends and build business relationships as you network with supply chain leaders.

20-21 AUGUST 2013; University of Pretoria Post-harvest Technology Workshop, Plant Science Auditorium, University of Pretoria. Register now for the two-day workshop, packed with the latest information on: Fresh produce & food safety; Post-harvest Technology; Fresh produce packaging technology.

For more information on these two events contact Marianne van der Laarse +27 (0)12 332 0696 or mvanderlaarse@pma.com

18 SEPTEMBER 2013; BOJANGLES CORPORATE CLUB, ST GEORGES PARK CRICKET CLUB, PORT ELIZABETH (09H00)
NOTICE AND INVITATION TO ATTEND ANNUAL CITRUS COORDINATING MEETING FOR EXPORT OF CITRUS FRUIT TO SPECIAL MARKETS DURING 2013/2014 EXPORT SEASON.

More information on this in next week's newsletter.

16-18 OCTOBER 2013; EUROFRUIT CONGRESS SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE; NH LORD CHARLES HOTEL

For more information www.eurofruitcongress.com/sh or e-mail info@eurofruitcongress.com

PACKED AND SHIPPED

So where has the additional 3 million cartons of grapefruit been sent – increases over 2012 shipped include 1 m to northern Europe; 0.7 m to Russia (double 2012 deliveries); 0.3 m to China; 0.25 million to southern Europe; 0.2 m to Far East (excluding Japan) and 0.15 m to Canada. Shipments to Japan are the same as 2012.

To Week 30 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB	2012	2013	2012	2013	2013	2013	2012
Grapefruit	11.1 m	15.3 m	10.7 m	13.8 m	15 m	17.8 m	13 m
Soft Citrus	5.9 m	6.2 m	5.7 m	5.9 m	8.2 m	7.8 m	7.6 m
Lemons	8.2 m	8.8 m	6.6 m	8 m	11.1 m	10.3 m	10.5 m
Navels	19.9 m	20.3 m	19.3 m	18.3 m	24.9 m	23.1 m	24.6 m
Valencia	13.9 m	10.6 m	7.7 m	6.4 m	47.7 m	47.7 m	47.2 m
Total	59 m	61.2 m	50 m	52.4 m	106.8 m	107.5 m	103 m

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS' OWNED COMPANIES CGA, XSIT, CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, CGACC AND CITRUS ACADEMY ENSURE A COMPETITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY